

dependent claims using the transition word "wherein". Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 13-20 as obvious is requested. Notice to that effect is requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 11-20 under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over *GB 2,119,711* ("711") in view of *EP 0,574,124* ("124").

More specifically, the Examiner states that 711 teaches a device for selectively supplying lacquer to moistening liquid to a plate cylinder. Further, the Examiner states that 711 use a wiper 12. The Examiner then states that 124 teaches a doctor blade chamber device of the same structure in Applicant's application.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiners statement that 124 teaches a doctor blade chamber device. Patent 124 discloses a pair of upper and lower doctor blades 94 and 96 attached to a doctor blade head 98. However, Applicant is claiming a doctor blade chamber device for application of lacquer and water or damp. Further, Applicant's doctor blade chamber device can be divided across its length to apply lacquer in strips where the dampening unit does not apply damp.

It is submitted that the question under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is whether the totality of the art would collectively suggest the claimed invention to one of ordinary skill in this art. *In re Simon*, 461 F. 2d 1387, 174 USPQ 114 (CCPA 1972).

That elements, even distinguishing elements, are disclosed in the art is alone insufficient. It is common to find elements somewhere in the art. Moreover, most, if not all, elements perform their ordained and expected functions. The test is whether the invention as a whole, in light of all the teachings of the references in their entireties, would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made. *Connell v. Sears, Roebuck & Co.*, 722 F.2d 1542, 220 USPQ 193 (Fed. Cir. 1983).

It is insufficient that the art disclosed components of Applicants' claimed invention, either separately or used in other combinations. A teaching, suggestion, or incentive must exist to make the combination made by the inventor. *Interconnect Planning Corp. v. Feil*, 774 F. 2d 1132, 1143, 227 USPQ 543, 551 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

As discussed above, the art of record does not disclose nor suggest Applicant's claimed doctor blade chamber device.

Therefore, no reason or suggestion in the evidence of record exists why one of ordinary skill in the art would have been led to produce the claimed invention.

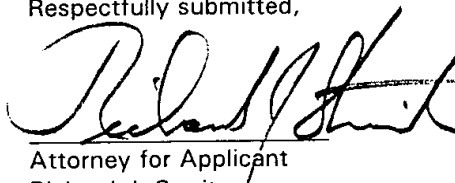
Therefore, *prima facie* obviousness has not been established by the Examiner as required under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Since the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness in combining any art of record or any art of record taken alone, the rejections under U.S.C. §103(a) have been overcome and should be withdrawn. Notice to that effect is requested. Withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Finally, Claims 12-20, depend directly and indirectly from independent Claim 11 incorporate all the limitations of Claim 11 are also patentable over any art of record for the reasons stated above. Withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested

In light of the foregoing response all the outstanding objections and rejections of record have been overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that this application should now be in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant  
Richard J. Streit  
Reg. No. 25765  
c/o Ladas & Parry  
224 South Michigan  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
(312) 427-1300

December 5, 2000

Date